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Executive Order

2-0181

JUL 2 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: International Communications and Electromagnetic Warfare

1. The United States and the West have lost the initiative in the fields of international communications, including broadcasting, from both the technical and diplomatic standpoint, to the Soviet Bloc. This loss is due entirely to the lack of foresight and leadership on the part of the US.
2. The President's Communications Policy Board, cognizant of this situation and the general state of disorganization and lack of planning in our domestic communications situation, recommended, and the President has decided to establish, an Advisor with responsibility for developing sound national policy in all major aspects of our national and world communications responsibilities.
3. The problem of recommending a man has been passed about in the Bureau of the Budget, finally coming to rest with Dr. Oliver E. Buckley, Chairman of the President's Science Advisory Committee. Discussion with Dr. Buckley indicates that he feels the Advisor to the President should be primarily an arbitrator and conciliator between conflicting communications interests within the government and with private industry rather than an aggressive, farsighted leader who will provide that authoritative guidance and direction necessary for the West to regain the initiative in this vital field. The men who have been recommended as candidates by Dr. Buckley (although fine gentlemen), do not in any way meet the requirements for such leadership.
4. The kind of man who is needed is someone of the caliber of Dr. Lloyd V. Berkner, whose history and accomplishments are summarized in the enclosure hereto.
5. Dr. Berkner is a close friend of [redacted] as a matter of fact, there is a memorandum in the BuAer, Navy, files signed by [redacted], which gives Berkner the credit for salvaging the Eighth Air Force offensive over Germany in the winter of 1943 because

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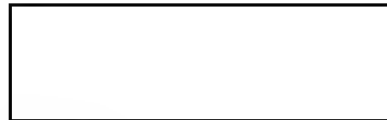
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of his great foresight and initiative in forcing the development and early production of the ANAPS 15 radar which became the Eighth Air Force's blind bombing equipment. Dr. Berkner is also one of the relatively few men chained to desk jobs in Washington during the war who were awarded the Order of the British Empire.

6. There can be great advantage to the work of the Psychological Board, the Security Council, and Mr. Wilson's Office to have a very able, farsighted and aggressive leader in this position who has such a broad background in electrical communications, has at the same time had experience in high level government circles, and is not closely tied with either the private communications industry or the military.



Acting Assistant Director
Scientific Intelligence

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Encl. 1

1. Curriculum vitae on Dr. L. V. BERKNER

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BERKNER, Lloyd V(iel), research scientist, naval officer and government executive.

- a. Born Milwaukee, Wisconsin 1 February 1905.
- b. B. S. in elec. engineering, U. of Minn., 1927.
- c. Studied physics, George Washington U.
- d. Engineer, Airways Div., U.S. Dept of Commerce 1927-28.
- e. Radio engineer and pilot, first Byrd Antarctic Expedition 1928-30.
- f. Research engineer, Nat. Bur. Standards, 1930-33.
- g. Research physicist, Dept. of Terrestrial Magnetism, Carnegie Institution of Washington, 1933-41.
- h. Head electronics material branch, Bur. of Aeronautics, U.S. Navy Dept. 1941-46. (Captain, USNR).
- i. Executive Secretary, Research and Development Board, NME, 1946-47.
- j. Chairman, Section on exploratory geophysics of the Atmosphere, Dept. of Terrestrial Magnetism, Carnegie Institution of Washington, 1947-48. Acting Director 1948-51.
- k. Special Assistant to Secretary of State to direct work relating to Military Assistance Program, 1949.
- l. Now president, Associated Universities, Inc., in New York. 1951- .
- m. Fellow, American Physical Society, Institute of Radio Engineers, American Institute of Electrical Engineers; member, National Academy of Sciences, American International Scientific Radio Union (exec. council), U.S. National Com. Internat. Joint Commn. on Ionosphere, American Inst. of Elec. Engrs. (exec. council; Washington sect.), A.A.A.S. (Centennial Planning Com.), Democrat; Congregationalist; Contributor to professional journals. Home: 105 Mountain Avenue, New Rochelle, New York. Office: Brookhaven National Laboratory, Upton, L. I., New York.

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